

Douglas' Activities Spark Kennedy-Thurmond Clash

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), in an uncharacteristic emotional outburst on the Senate floor, tangled with Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) yesterday over Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas' off-the-court activities.

He accused Thurmond of "reaching and stretching" to make Douglas' participation in a Latin American social studies center appear "un-American or unethical."

At one point, as Kennedy sarcastically sought to correct Thurmond's pronunciation of the word "gregarious," the South Carolinian caustically invited him to talk about his Harvard education. It was a fleeting and hastily dropped reminder that Kennedy had been asked to leave Harvard College in 1951 for having a friend take an examination in his place.

Kennedy repeatedly prod-

ded Thurmond to cite a past case in which Douglas' involvement with outside activities had been a matter coming before the court.

"You are asking a very foolish question and you know it," replied Thurmond, who insisted that he was talking only of the potential problem of a justice being forced to disqualify himself from cases in which he had been involved off the bench.

Thurmond has demanded several times that Douglas resign because he received \$12,000 annually from the Albert B. Parvin Foundation. Yesterday, Thurmond said Douglas had been associated with the Inter-American Center for Economic and Social Studies, which he said was financed by the Parvin Foundation and the Central Intelligence Agency for helping the non-Communist left in Latin American countries.

That laid him open to political involvement and showed that Douglas "scarcely understands the relationship of the three branches of government," Thurmond said.

Kennedy told Thurmond the Inter-American Center was trying to teach non-Communist leftists how to fight communism in such countries as the Dominican Republic and that the CIA had decided to back it with money.

"Well," Kennedy added, "is the Dominican Republic going to come up before the Supreme Court?"

He said he had listened to Thurmond's charges against Douglas and at last felt compelled to intervene.

Kennedy is normally re-

strained in exchanges with other Senators, but yesterday his face was flushed and his voice rose several times to a shouting level.

Only two other Senators—Russell Long (D-La.) and Harrison Williams (D-N.J.)—were still on the Senate floor when the argument broke out, just before adjournment. Long, who was beaten by Kennedy for the majority whip job early this year, sat smiling throughout the encounter.

Kennedy said that even Supreme Court justices should not be removed completely from political affairs or foundation service and pointed out that Judge Warren Burger, who was confirmed earlier yesterday as Chief Justice, had been a member of the Mayo Foundation.

"I wouldn't want a judiciary which was completely isolated, completely remote," Kennedy said.

Thurmond said that the Latin American center was a tax-exempt organization and that this status might come before the Supreme Court while Douglas is a justice. At that point Kennedy began pressing for past examples of matters coming before the court after Douglas had been involved in them. **Thurmond could name none.**